

Donna Weiting,
Chief of Marine Mammal Conservation Division
Office of Protected Resources
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Springs, MD 20910

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Dear Donna,

Thank you for taking the time to speak with me about the LFAS sonar testing proposed project. As per your suggestion, I viewed the navys' website to acquire further information about the testing they have conducted and to view their results of an environmental impact study.

What I found was that I could not locate the in-depth final draft of the report anywhere on their sight. What I have learned from a Dr. Kenneth C. Balcomb of the Office of Protected Species is that their final draft is a 1200 page document that I could not possibly make sense of, as I am not a scientist.

As a concerned citizen I am absolutely outraged at the governments abuses of their power. Their ability to manipulate factual evidence to support their own needs is appauling. It is actually illegal as well. In light of this, untampered, unmanipulated and factual scientific evidence is now available to you to make a proper ruling to deny this permit.

As per our conversation I understand that the Marine Mammal Protection Act calls for "negligible losses", and in this it is your offices duty to interpret and uphold the law to ensure the safety of the mammals that you are in office serving to protect. Your office was set up to conserve Marine Mammals. You are the chief of this office. You were set up to look after the welfare of these precious resources, as you like to label them. As you stated to me-the government was established to create a system of checks and balances- you were set up as the balance to the checks.

I also asked you what you consider negligible amounts of animals, what is your formulation for calculating this? Again you went back to a scientific assessment. You could not answer my question because you have no answer to that. You have no idea how many whale and dolphins will be killed by this single act- that is the truth and you are willing to take that chance to protect "national security." How about calling a halt to all wars and learning to live in peace with one another. One thing that I have learned about war is that it is an economically

profitable business, so by instituting these new "war" technologies, it is not that it is the best interest of the people, it is in the best interest of our government- any government to keep the threat of war alive, to make money. If you really want to protect your citizens, stop producing things that kill them.

I asked you what you felt was going to be the outcome and you stated that you plan on issuing the permit to the navy, unless public opinion is strong enough to point out the validity of harmful effects and support this with scientific documentation. (Please see enclosed letter from whale biologist Kenneth C. Balcomb to J.S. Johnson of the Navy) I believe this letter alone is scientific evidence enough for you to halt the granting of this permit until safer methods can be found.

Kenneth Balcomb, has proven that the whales that died in the areas of Greece, the Bahamas and Hawaii are singly attributable to the LFAS sonar testing through his understanding and implementation of the formulae of Minnaert and Andreeva- the same that the navy used.. He states, "...the Navy has sufficient information available to know there is at least theoretically a very serious problems to whales from LFA for even brief periods of time." He also had the opportunity, thanks to the navy to perform a necropsy on the beaked whales and and found that "all the whales had similar lesions ,ie. hemorrhage in the acoustic regions of the cranium and mandible and in tissues adjacent to airspaces around the earbones...This same specimen evidenced lung hemorrhage and laryngeal hemorrhage upon dissection. These hemorrhages are of the type of damage reported in laboratory animals exposed to LFA at lung resonance frequency, and they strongly corroborate the theoretical explanation of such injuries in these whales."

When I looked at the navy's website, under LFAS sonar testing the environmental impact study there was a scanty picture showing the testing periods on specific whale populations ignoring the scientific fact that whales differ in diving depths, migration patterns, sizes and as you pointed out to me echo-location sensitivities. What I found was that the navy's environmental impact study was conducted in Three Phases which covered Sept-Oct '97 on the blue fin whale, Jan '98- Gray fin Whale, and Februray -March '98 on the humpback whale.

What I want to know is how can you possibly study the long term effects on the whale populations, migrating and birthing patterns in that short of a time period? How can you possibly grant a permit to this operation when you have factual evidence that the beaked whales in the Bahamas that were at least 35 in number had not been seen for over one year from the testing date. Which means they are either living somewhere else or they have all sunk to the bottom of the

ocean and died. How does the navy account for the animals that have sunk to the bottom of the ocean and died?

I also want to know what other independent body was given notice to conduct long-term studies? What follow up testing was conducted? Where were they conducted? Why did they choose the sites they chose? Why was the study only conducted for one month and how many days out of that month? What was the navy specifically looking for? How did they determine the effects and what if they showed up after the testing? How did they set up measures to find out who or what else was effected? What was their final research based on?

I believe from the evidence that I have read the navy is covering up a manipulated scientific test and your office is acting as an accomplice. I also believe that it is your responsibility to uphold the Marine Mammal Protection Act to the best of your ability and in knowing that you cannot determine what negligible losses may occur that you are obligated to test further in order to have a clearer picture of what that will mean.

I find it quite interesting that the Navy has already gone into full scale production of LFAS equipment when it has not even been granted approval yet by your office. Do they know something we do not about the issuing of this permit? Are you going to actually hear valid public opinion about the dangers and deaths of this program or has your decision already been made?

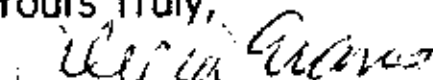
I have made 5 attempts to contact J.S. Johnson, no one of my phone calls were returned.

I have spent time in the wild living among these beings, no words that our human language has can compare to their majesty and wisdom. They have roamed the oceans for 25 million years and now face the threat of extinction because we humans have not figured out how to create peace on earth. It is from my divine heart to yours that I reach out to you and ask you to see with the eyes of your heart that this LFAS implementation is a wiping out of the earths history that we may never recover from and that you have the power to prevent that from happening. Hear these words in your heart not in your logical mind, you cannot rationalize this away and hide behind some false scientific evidence that is not truth. I ask you to remember the real reason you came to this earth and stand in your power to affect thing change of saying no to more war and violence and destruction.

In the movie Contact- there is a scene and in it ancient wisdom is passed down- "you humans are capable of such beauty and you create such destruction." This has become our way and we need to change this before we destroy all living things. If we destroy the dolphins and the whales- then what is next?

Donna, I appreciate your attention to this matter and I sincerely hope that you will consider the far reaching ethical implications of this decision. If we kill those beings we are killing ourselves.

Yours Truly,


Alecia Evans